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21 June 2010

政府總部 運輸及房屋局 局長辦公室

局 長 辦 公 室 香港中環花園道美利大廈上六樓

木局檔號 Our Ref.:

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

Miss Becky YU
Clerk to Legislative Council Panel on Housing
Room 603, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss YU,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 June 2010, enclosing the Hon LEE Wing-tat's letter seeking response to the media coverage of the self-occupied residential property offered for sale by the Secretary for Transport and Housing. The Secretary has asked me to reply on her behalf as follows.

Following the media coverage early this month, the Secretary publicly clarified that about four to five years ago, she and her family members had considered selling their residential property due to family reasons. Subsequently, due to changes in family circumstances, there was no further need to move to another premise. As the Secretary had not taken the initiative to update estate agents' records on the property for sale in recent years, enquiry calls kept coming from estate agents. Earlier this year, when enquired by estate agents, she indicated that she had no intention to offer the property for sale. She and her family members made the decision merely in response to changes in family circumstances, and it was a natural course of action. In fact, every family, based on its life cycle, naturally has different living requirements at different stages.

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The Government's introduction of the nine measures and twelve requirements aims to enhance both the transparency and equity in property information and transactions instead of dampening the property market. It has nothing to do with any personal considerations. If the introduction of the nine measures and twelve requirements brings about any "side effects", it will only bring about a more rational environment for property transactions. The Secretary definitely does not have any conflict of personal interests in this issue. She has declared her property ownership under the Accountability System for Principal Officials.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Ada Chan)

Administrative Assistant to Secretary for Transport and Housing